

# ST BERNADETTE'S PARISH LALOR PARK

Web Page: [www.stbernadetteslalorpark.org.au](http://www.stbernadetteslalorpark.org.au)  
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## PARISH BULLETIN

Email: [admin@stbernadetteslalorpark.org.au](mailto:admin@stbernadetteslalorpark.org.au)  
Parish Priest: Fr Clifford D'Souza msfs  
Parish Deacon: Deacon Jerome Emmanuel  
Parish Secretary: Mrs Bev Baxter  
Sacramental Coordinator: Mrs Madge Miranda (Thursday/Friday)  
Assistant Secretary: Chantal Weir (Wednesday)  
Office Hours: Wednesday 9am-3.30pm, Thursday & Friday 9am to 4pm  
Principal: Mrs Lisa Samojlowicz Tel: 8869 6400

*We acknowledge the Darug people, the traditional custodians on whose land we worship*



(Established 1961)

## ST BERNADETTE'S PARISH VISION STATEMENT

The Parish of St Bernadette's strives to be a vibrant, active, Catholic community, that is welcoming and nurturing to all and celebrates being a people of God, with Christ as the model.

## 17th Sunday, Ordinary Time - YEAR B. July 28th 2024

### Pope: The elderly are the 'firm foundation' of the future

In his Message for the Fourth World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, July 28, 2024, Pope Francis recognizes the situation of many elderly people today, and assures them: "God never abandons His children, never."

"Do not cast me off in my old age": This sincere plea, taken from Psalm 71. Pope Francis referred to the elderly as "the firm foundation" on which "new" stones can rest, to join in erecting a spiritual edifice ( *1 Peter 2:5*)." Fear of loneliness, both the "certainty of God's closeness at every stage of life and the fear of abandonment, particularly in old age and in times of pain," can be found in the Bible and these words "reflect an utterly evident reality. All too often, loneliness is the bleak companion of our lives as elderly persons and grandparents," Pope Francis acknowledges.

"There are many reasons for this loneliness," the Pope continues, "in many places, above all in the poorer countries, the elderly find themselves alone because their children are forced to emigrate." He describes the situation of the elderly left in their war-torn countries as "the only signs of life in areas where abandonment and death seem to reign supreme."

The Pope also decries the beliefs of some local cultures where the elderly "are suspected of using witchcraft to sap the vital energies of the young" and thus are blamed for blows of fate affecting the young. He goes on to say that "this accusation that the elderly 'rob the young of their future' is nowadays present everywhere. It appears under other guises even in the most advanced and modern societies."

The Pope explains, that the "abandonment of the elderly is not by chance or inevitable, but the fruit of decisions – political, economic, social and personal decisions – that fail to acknowledge the *infinite dignity* of each person, 'beyond every circumstance, state or situation the person may ever encounter'."

The Holy Father laments that "nowadays many women and men seek personal fulfilment in a life as independent as possible and detached from other people." "The passage from 'us' to 'me' is one of the most evident signs of our times," he writes. "Solitude and abandonment have become recurrent elements in today's social landscape," the Pope admits.

The Holy Father's Message concludes with an appeal: "In place of the self-centred attitude that leads to loneliness and abandonment, let us instead show the open heart and the joyful face of men and women who have the courage to say, 'I will not abandon you', and to set out on a different path."

And he conveys his blessing and prayers, "to all of you, dear grandparents and elderly persons, and to all those who are close to you."

By Sr. Francine-Marie Cooper, ISSM



**Pope's Intention for July:** We pray that the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick confer to those who receive it and their loved ones the power of the Lord and become ever more a visible sign of compassion and hope for all.

**Entrance Antiphon:**

God is in his holy place  
 God who unites those who dwell in his house;  
 He himself gives might and strength to his people.

**First Reading:** 2 Kings 4:42-44

They will eat and have some leftover.

**Responsorial Psalm:**

The hand of the Lord feeds us; he answers all our needs.

**Second Reading:** Ephesians 4: 1-6

There is one body, one Lord, one faith, one baptism.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, Alleluia!

A great prophet has appeared among us;  
 God has visited his people.

Alleluia!

**Communion Antiphon:**

Bless the Lord, O my soul,  
 And never forget all his benefits.

**GOSPEL John 6:1-15**

Jesus went across the Sea of Galilee.  
 A large crowd followed him,  
 because they saw the signs he was performing on the sick.  
 Jesus went up on the mountain,  
 and there he sat down with his disciples.  
 The Jewish feast of Passover was near.  
 When Jesus raised his eyes  
 and saw that a large crowd was coming to him,  
 he said to Philip,  
 "Where can we buy enough food for them to eat?"  
 He said this to test him,  
 because he himself knew what he was going to do.  
 Philip answered him,  
 "Two hundred days' wages worth of food would not be enough  
 for each of them to have a little."  
 One of his disciples,  
 Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter, said to him,  
 "There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish;  
 but what good are these for so many?"  
 Jesus said, "Have the people recline."  
 Now there was a great deal of grass in that place.  
 So the men reclined, about five thousand in number.  
 Then Jesus took the loaves, gave thanks,  
 and distributed them to those who were reclining,  
 and also as much of the fish as they wanted.  
 When they had had their fill, he said to his disciples,  
 "Gather the fragments left over,  
 so that nothing will be wasted."  
 So they collected them,  
 and filled twelve wicker baskets with fragments  
 from the five barley loaves  
 that had been more than they could eat.  
 When the people saw the sign he had done, they said,  
 "This is truly the Prophet, the one who is to come into the world."  
 Since Jesus knew that they were going to come and carry him off  
 to make him king,  
 he withdrew again to the mountain alone.

**VALE Bishop Kevin Manning**

**(2 November 1933 – 15 July 2024)**

The funeral Mass for Bishop Emeritus Kevin Manning, the second Bishop of Parramatta, will be held on Friday 2 August at 11am at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. The Mass will also be live streamed on the Diocese of Parramatta's YouTube channel. A vigil service will be held **[information will be provided in coming days]**.

Bishop Manning will then be interred on Monday 5 August in Coolah, NSW.

We continue to pray for the repose of his soul and give thanks to God for his earthly life. To register your attendance, please visit [parracatholic.org/bishopmanning](http://parracatholic.org/bishopmanning)

**\* Prayer for Blessing of Grandparents \***

Lord God almighty, you have given your children the gift of long life, and they ask for your blessing. Let them feel the tenderness and strength of your presence. As they look back to the past, let them rejoice in your mercy. As they look to the future, may they persevere in hope that does not fade.

As we honour and appreciate our grandparents, we ask you to bless them with long life, happiness, and health. May they remain constant in your love and be living signs of your presence to their children and grandchildren.

To you be praise and glory forever and ever. Amen.

**VINNIES PANTRY**

During the month of July you are invited to donate the following, a **TIN OF SPAGHETTI, TINNED FRUIT or BOTTLE OF PANCAKE MIX.**

This enables St Vincent de Paul with their assistance to the needy.

**We thank you for your continuing support and generosity.**

**THE CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF PARRAMATTA OFFICE OF SAFEGUARDING**

If you or someone close to you has suffered any abuse by a representative of the Catholic Church (school, parish, other Catholic Groups) in Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains we invite you to contact us. Our professional staff will listen to your experience, respect your confidentiality and discuss all available options. Phone (02) 9933 0233. Web: [safeguarding@parra.catholic.org.au](mailto:safeguarding@parra.catholic.org.au). For any complaints that may relate to criminal conduct we encourage you to contact NSW Police on 1800 333 000.

**\* WE NEED YOU \***

Would you like to volunteer in your parish? We need readers, altar servers, welcomers, and more. Please contact the parish office for more information

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**YOUNG ADULT FAITH FORMATION**

Young Adult Faith Formation sessions continue on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> August 2024 at The Hustle (Unit 4, 4-6 Purdy Rd Minchinbury) at 7pm. The speaker is **Fr John Rizzo** who will talk about and lead discussion on **The Eucharist**. All adults 18-35 are encouraged to come along and enjoy some faith formation, pizza and fellowship! If you have any questions, please call Mark on 0477 004 678.

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**SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION PROCESS 2024**

Parents, please ensure you have submitted your registration form, for children wanting to receive their First Holy Communion. The children should be baptised and have made their First Reconciliation. The first Meeting for Parents **ONLY** will take place on Thursday, August 15 at 9:15 am **OR** 7:30pm in the Parish Meeting Room (under the Parish Office).



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**TAP & GO DONATION UPDATE**

**Please note:** The 3G network is scheduled to be phased out soon, the existing Quest (the tap & go) donation devices, which rely on 3G SIM cards to process donations, has been replaced with Smart devices. There are two Smart devices installed in the Church and ready for use. These terminals allow Parishioners to tap a donation or payment using their Master or Visa card. It comes with a Donation App which allows three pre-set amounts ( \$ 5, 10, 20) plus there is also an 'Other Amount' button allowing the donor to donate an amount of their own choice. Please select the amount you wish to donate and then tap your Master or Visa Card to complete the process. Only two steps – it is that simple. In case you need assistance, our Parish Priest (or Deacon) will be on hand.

Should you wish to obtain a receipt for the donation, the App allows you to key in your email address to which the receipt will be sent. Thank you for your on-going support to the parish and the clergy of the diocese. Fr. Clifford

**St MARY MACKILLOP FEAST DAY**

Feast day celebration, 8th August 2024



You are invited to a day of celebration for St Mary Mackillop at Mary Mackillop Place, 80 William St, North Sydney.

The 10am mass will be live streamed,

[www.marymackillopplace.org.au](http://www.marymackillopplace.org.au)

LINK <https://youtube.com/embed/lppmamzmOb0>

Mass times, 8am and 6pm in the Chapel

10am, and 1pm on Glen Roy Green (bring a hat)

Pray at the tomb of St Mary Mackillop, write prayers of petition, reflect in the chapel. Spend time in Alma Cottage, her place of death.

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**FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK**

29th July St Martha, Mary & Lazarus  
30th July St Peter Chrysologus  
31st July St Ignatius of Loyola  
1st Aug St Alphonsus Mary Liguori  
2nd Aug St Peter Faber  
3rd Aug St Dominic

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**Launch of the Diocesan Pastoral Plan for a Synodal Church**

The Diocese of Parramatta is excited to announce that the launch and release of the Diocesan Pastoral Plan for a Synodal Church is only 2 weeks away, on Saturday 10 August.

The pastoral plan represents the culmination of our Synod journey, where we have come together to listen, discern, and envision a path forward for our diocese over the past 15 months. For more information, visit [parracatholic.org/synodality](http://parracatholic.org/synodality).



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**PARISH PRIVACY POLICY**

Following proclamation of the Privacy Act 1988 (Cth) at the end of 2001, the parish has reviewed its records and methods for holding and collecting information about parishioners. A Privacy Policy has been developed and approved by the Parish Priest and Parish Pastoral Council, in accordance with Diocesan norms, and a copy can be obtained from the Parish Centre during office hours.

## DIOCESAN FOOD DRIVES

Many vulnerable people in our community rely on the 'food banks' run by the Jesuit Refugee Services and the House of Welcome. These operate thanks to donations from community food drives. All parishes and schools are encouraged to run a food drive for those seeking safety in Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains. Find out more information about how you can help at [parracatholic.org/fooddrive](http://parracatholic.org/fooddrive) or emailing [james.atanasious@parracatholic.org](mailto:james.atanasious@parracatholic.org)

## MT SCHOENSTATT Shrine Time, Holy Hour for Youth and Young Adults

The Mount Schoenstatt community invites young adults for Holy Hour every fourth Sunday of the month from 7pm to 8pm at the Mt Schoenstatt Shrine, 230 Fairlight Road, Mulgoa, followed by a social gathering afterwards. There will be opportunities for praise and worship, prayer, reflection, confession and benediction. For more information, please contact Sr M Rita on 0493 026 628 or [srrita@schoenstatt.org.au](mailto:srrita@schoenstatt.org.au)

## MASS TIMES AND PARISH LITURGIES

Saturday Vigil 6.00pm,  
Sunday 8.30am & 10.00am

### WEEKDAY MASSES

Tuesday, Thursday, Friday & Saturday @ 9.15am  
(Rosary and Exposition before Mass @ 8.30am)  
Wednesday evening @ 7:00pm

### RECONCILIATION

Saturday 9.45-10.15am  
5.00 - 5.30pm

## EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, 8.30am - 9.15am  
Wednesday 6.30pm

### BAPTISMS

At 11.30am by appointment only (Sundays).  
A Preparation Evening will be held before the Baptism for parents and godparents.  
This will be 7.30pm in the Parish Centre, on the 4th Tuesday of the month.

### MARRIAGES & FUNERALS

By Appointment - Please contact the Parish Office for details.

### For sick parishioners, relatives and friends.

Fr. John Goulding, Andrew Twoey, Dennis Tracey, Phoebe Mae Lasmarias, Melanie Sant, Sarah Davenport, Maria Mihic, Maureen Wood, Dean McDonald, Judy Phillips, David Smythe, Thelma Islip, Jim Buckley, Wendy Hord, Sam Cassar, Rachel Surdich, Mabel Green, Tycho Walsh, Angie Delara, Jom & Andrew Cadman, Nathan Weaver, Paul Tonissoo, Julie Daly,

### For our recently deceased brothers and sisters: Murali Katari, Virginia Vardy, Jenny Wright

**Deceased:** Abigail B Devega, Benigno Zamora Jr, Jimmy Morgan, Benjamin Mikilic, Joyce McQueen, Francis Vassallo, Anka-Pero Pejasinovic, Alois Mihic, Nirvana Zec, Mira Zec, Laura Vecchiet, Lino Delulia, Maria Micelotta, Elipidia Morcilla Lauzon, Ailsia & Bruce McDonald, Joan & Stanley Bartle, Garrick Family.

Deceased members & benefactors of the St Vincent de Paul Society.

**Anniversary:** George Muranty, Irene Peters, Zabeth Family, Dabbous, Jawish, Kinaw, Sabagh, Macartney, Darley Families, Angel de Vega, Ceferino D. Bautista, Anacleto S.Cordero, Benjamin Y Bautista,

We pray for all those from St Bernadette's who are sick, or have died.  
May all the souls of the faithful departed, rest in peace and rise in glory.



## ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND: 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time 3rd & 4th August, 2024

Ministry	6.00pm	8.30am	10.00am
Altar Servers	Arielle McDonald Lucie McDonald Flora Madeni	Jess Barbin Alyssa Barbin Harrison Barbin	Cate Astillo Zara Astillo Madeline Chakti
Minister at the Altar	Leonides Martirez	Joe Formosa	Fernando Gallegos
Minister of the Word	Wendy Hord @ 1 Kim McDonald @ 2 Michael Hord @	Ana Vlatko @ 1 Michelle Brohier @ 2 Carmen Bonello @	Perla Billedo @ 1 Minda Vuleta @ 2 Eva Narajos @
Eucharistic Minister	Anne Walsh	Helen Gonzales	Sarah Key
Welcomer	Bridget	Louise Bruni	Gabrielle Chakty
Music	Mordini Family	CD's Judith Pineda	Couples for Christ
Flowers	Michelle Brohier		
Counters	Tom, Epay, Orlando		
Projector Operator			
Church Cleaners	Bing Money, Ricardo Serrado, Michael Muranty		